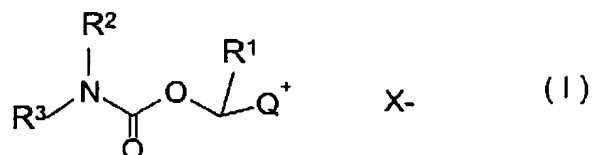


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Please amend the claims as shown below:

1. (Twice amended) A compound of the formula (I),



wherein

Q is a 3-[4-(4-cyanophenyl)thiazol-2-yl]-2-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-1-(1H-1,2,4-triazol-1-yl)-butan-2-ol moiety which is linked to the remainder of the compound of formula (I) by a nitrogen in the azole;

R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen or alkyl;

R<sup>2</sup> is hydrogen, alkyl, alkylcarbonyloxyalkyl, alkoxycarbonyl, alkylcarbonyl, mono- or dialkylaminoalkylcarbonyloxyalkyl;

R<sup>3</sup> is pyridin-2-yl or substituted pyridin-2-yl; and

X<sup>-</sup> is a pharmaceutically acceptable anion,

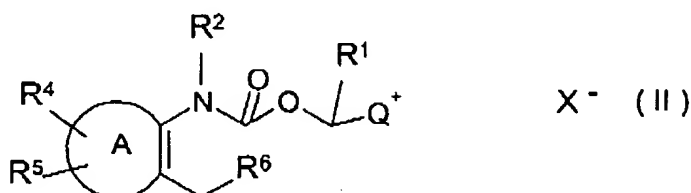
wherein

when R<sup>3</sup> is substituted pyridin-2-yl, the substituent is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, alkyl, alkoxy, alkylthio, alkylsulfinyl, alkylsulfonyl, carboxy, alkylloxycarbonyl, cyano, trifluoromethyl, trifluormethoxy, nitro, aminosulfonyl, alkylaminocarbonyloxyalkyl, sulfo, alkylcarbonyloxyalkyl and aminoalkylcarbonyloxyalkyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. (Twice amended) Compounds of claim 1 wherein R<sup>3</sup> is substituted pyridin-2-yl.

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3. (Amended) Compounds of claim 2 having formula (II),



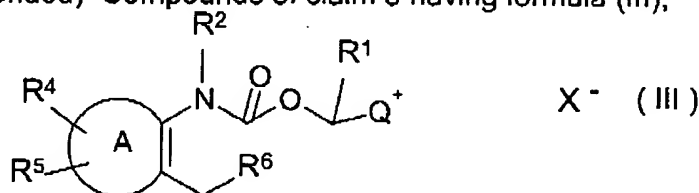
wherein

R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, Q, and X are as defined in claim 1; group  is pyridin-2-yl;

R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, alkyl, alkoxy, alkylthio, alkylsulfinyl, alkylsulfonyl, carboxy, alkyloxycarbonyl, cyano, trifluoromethyl, trifluormethoxy, nitro, aminosulfonyl, alkylaminocarbonyloxyalkyl, sulfo, alkylcarbonyloxyalkyl and aminoalkylcarbonyloxyalkyl; and

R<sup>6</sup> is hydroxy, alkoxycarbonylalkylamino, alkoxycarbonylamino, amino, alkylamino, alkylcarbonyloxy, alkoxycarbonylalkylaminoalkylcarbonyloxy, alkoxycarbonylamino-alkylcarbonyloxy, alkylaminoalkylcarbonyloxy, aminoalkylcarbonyloxy, alkylcarbonylamino, alkylcarbonylalkylamino, acyloxy, acylamino, acylalkylamino.

4. (Amended) Compounds of claim 3 having formula (III),



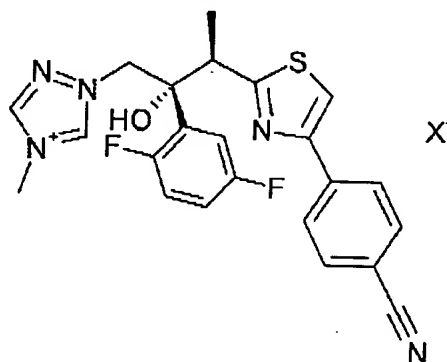
wherein

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$R^4$  and  $R^5$  are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, alkyl, alkoxy, alkylthio, alkylsulfinyl, alkylsulfonyl, carboxy, alkyloxycarbonyl, cyano, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, nitro, aminosulfonyl or sulfo; and

$R^6$  is hydroxy, alkoxycarbonylalkylamino, alkoxycarbonylamino, amino, alkylamino, alkylcarbonyloxy, alkoxycarbonylalkylaminoalkylcarbonyloxy, alkoxycarbonylamino-alkylcarbonyloxy, alkylaminoalkylcarbonyloxy, aminoalkylcarbonyloxy, alkylcarbonylamino, alkylcarbonylalkylamino, acyloxy, acylamino, acylalkylamino.

14. (Amended) Compounds of claim 1 wherein Q is



as well as pharmaceutically acceptable salts, hydrates or solvates thereof.

30. (Twice amended) An pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

#### REMARKS

Claims 1-31 were pending in the subject application.